

**NEWINGTON PARKS & RECREATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
TUESDAY, December 18, 2012**

I. CALL TO ORDER

Don Woods called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

II. ROLL CALL

Board: Richard Khentigan, Robert Fresen, Eileen Francolino, Jen Win-Johnson, Don Woods, Mary Udice, Jeff Perillo, Ed Marchion

Board Members Absent: Kathy Zolad, Bill DeBlasio Jim Marocchini

Staff: Superintendent Bruce Till

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF November 20, 2012

Mary Udice made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2012 meeting. Ed Marchion seconded the motion. The motion passed with a 8-0 vote.

IV. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION - None

V. CORRESPONDENCE/COMMUNICATIONS/REPORTS

Monthly Report FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Basketball: Eileen inquiring about Basketball program, approx. 600 enrolled in program, no drop off over the last several years. High school boys think cost of program is expensive; price has not increased this season. Parks and recreation dept. does not run a lot of programs for the high school kids, have allowed the boys to sign up after registration has closed, P & R would like to continue to offer this program to the kids.

Clem Lemire Field: Clarification for the concern of Lemire field from the November Meeting regarding girls losing home field advantage. Bruce spoke with **Chris Meyers, NHS Athletic Director** during the week of the game; assured Chris that the field would be clear of frost etc. by the time of the game on that Friday. Bruce was confident the field would be playable. Chris chose to go to FSA to have the game possibly under pressure of parents and coaches wanting to make sure the girls played.

Swim Club: Bruce has tried to accommodate them with various times in the summer but the club did not want to take those times that were offered. Bruce does not want to take the time away from swim lessons or prime time for recreation swim. He has spoken to Sharon about trying to work with the swim club on the times originally offered. Eileen said the mothers of the swim club would like to be able to stay in Newington to because they have to pay more to go to Berlin.

Union: Bruce has met with the Town Manager's Team related to the AFSCME and Union Negotiations are at a standstill. May be meeting after the holidays or go directly to arbitration. There have been offers and counter offers from Management and Union Team but no movement on the Union side and there will have to be some give on the Management side before it goes any further.

Capital Budget: Bruce met with the Town Manager and finance department regarding the capital budget, a lot of programs that Bruce put forward will be set back because of the renovations or

new community center project. All of the CIP projects will be pushed back. Discussion on the two town pools, Churchill and Mill Pond, Bruce recommends that a structural engineer and a person with experience in filtration plans be brought in to give further evaluations of the two existing pools. Still investigating where some of the leaks are coming from at Churchill pool, repairs to expansion joints and caulking need to be done to the pool. Life span of both pools (Churchill and Mill Pond) have been met, both over 45 years old. Need to hire someone who is experienced in pools and have them further evaluated. Bruce would like to gather more information to figure if they should do additional renovations to these pools to keep them going. Looking to engineer department for old records to see what kind of mapping has already been done of the parks. Bruce mentioned that cost breakdowns for the programs are available for Board members to review. Profits from some programs are used to cover the cost of other programs that are not as profitable.

Holiday programs were very successful, a lot of people volunteered their time, additional decorations were put up this year around town.

Don mentioned Parks and Rec Dept lost the \$25,000.00 contingency fund because the town thought it wasn't needed.

Leaf Pickup: Jeff mentioned there is still a lot of leaves near and around John Patterson School (Church Street side) that need to be picked up. Bruce mentioned the crew is still going around checking areas and picking up leaves.

CT Parks and Rec. Association Conference: Bruce attended conference last month, highly recommends sending staff.

Meeting schedule for 2013: Keeping the schedule as-is. If you cannot attend meetings please e-mail Bruce or Don.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Extravaganza: Bruce is still in negotiations with carnival and fireworks people. Casino fundraiser still a go, great idea to raise money. There will not be a three day pass made for rides.

Building Committee update: Topic of meeting was selection of project manager, 13 RFQ's came back. Lee Olson, the project facilitator made a grid to grade all 13 fairly. January 7th committee is to come back and chose 3 to 6 of the 13 RFQ's to interview. Interviewing process may take place in February. No site selection has been made just yet. About eight people from the public came to the meeting, most speaking strongly against scheme A (Tennis Courts) and scheme G (**Garfield St.**) one of the public participants liked scheme I which is the plan the P & R board members have discussed and would like to see chosen. Meetings are the first Monday of the month at 5:30pm for anyone to attend. Bruce does not think this project will make it to referendum by November, very slow process. Construction manager needs a site to give cost estimate; Don thinks maybe by early spring will know cost of project. Also, an architect will need to be chosen for a design of building.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

Travel Basketball: Bruce called a mandatory meeting with coaches regarding issues happening with kids of the Travel Basketball program. The kids were being very disrespectful to school property and principals, this due to poor supervision of the kids, parents dropping off too early and picking up late. Don also attended the meeting on behalf of the commission. Bruce and Don went over all the issues with the coaches. Discussion with coaches on what needs to be done and what is expected of them to continue to have use of the gymnasium, also a letter of apology has

been sent to the principal involved. The coaches seem to be unified to get this situation under control. Changes have been made on when the kids can arrive and must be there with supervision. This turned out to be a very positive meeting and Parks and Rec. Dept. will continue to maintain a good relationship with the Board of Ed. Progressive discipline action will take place in the future which could result in loss of gymnasium privileges.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: A motion was made by Rich Khentigan to adjourn. Eileen Francolino seconded the motion, all were in favor and the meeting was adjourned at 8:17 pm with an 8-0 vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Jay